

V. REMARKS

Claim 20 is objected to because of an informality. Claim 20 is amended to obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 12, 13, 16, 17 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Tanaka et al. (U.S. Patent No: 6,863,994). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As indicated in the Office Action, claims 5-11, 14, 15, 18 and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 1 is amended by adding the features of claim 5 and claim 5 is now canceled. As a result, claim 1 is now in condition for allowance.

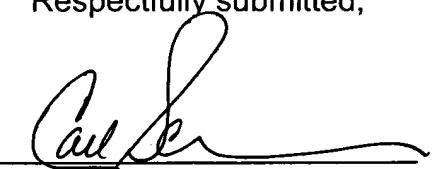
Claims 2, 3, 4, 12, 13, 16, 17 and 20 depend from claim 1 and include all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure(s): Amendment Transmittal

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